

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the City of Somerville. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of the City of Somerville**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.5% (1,785) of these admissions reside in the City of Somerville. 6.5% (116) of admissions from the City of Somerville were under 18 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only admissions, and can represent a figure larger than the actual number of individuals.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from City of Somerville reported the following characteristics:

- 77.5% (1,384) were male and 22.5% (401) were female.
- 55.9% (998) were between the ages of 30-49.
- 78.7% (1,405) were white non-Latino, 9.8% (174) were black non-Latino, 7.3% (131) were Latino, and 4.2% (75) were other racial categories.
- 69.2% (1,235) were never married, 10.4% (185) were married, and 20.5% (365) reported not to be married now.
- 30.2% (539) had less than high school education, 47.2% (843) completed high school, and 22.6% (403) had more than high school education.
- 14.6% (261) were employed.
- 24.7% (441) were homeless.
- 25.9% (463) had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the City of Somerville.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
City	45%	36%	6%	5%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Number of admissions Reporting Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
City of Somerville							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '96</b>	1,289	1,095	430	445	309	373	246
<b>FY '97</b>	1,239	1,031	381	407	300	392	268
<b>FY '98</b>	1,080	875	369	346	197	365	264
<b>FY '99</b>	1,031	814	324	341	183	394	298
<b>FY '00</b>	1,120	833	320	332	151	426	324
<b>FY '01</b>	1,332	1,024	387	425	214	604	460
<b>FY '02</b>	1,339	982	356	414	239	577	466
<b>FY '03</b>	1,785	1,214	541	518	267	793	622

### **Heroin and Injection Drug Use**

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the City of Somerville and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

